

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09

EUR-12 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 /123 W

-----021118Z 021666 /13

R 020020Z APR 77

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3040

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS USUN 0996

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, SOCI

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE-INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON
CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

1. THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE CONCLUDED ITS FIRST SESSION ON APRIL 1. THE TWO-WEEK SESSION WAS DEVOTED PRIMARILY TO ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS, WITH MOST TIME SPENT DEALING THE RULES AND PROCEDURE. THE COMMITTEE ADOPTED MOST OF THE DRAFT RULES BUT LEFT DECISIONS ON SEVERAL OF THE MORE CONTROVERSIAL ITEMS SUCH AS DISTRIBUTION OF DOCUMENTATION, FOR ITS NEXT SESSION.

2. AFTER LENGTHY DEBATE THE COMMITTEE APPROVED PROVISIONAL RULE 51 WHICH PROVIDES THAT "DECISIONS SHALL BE MADE BY A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT." THE SOVIET DELEGATE PUSHED FOR A CONSENSUS AGREEMENT, BUT ACHIEVED ONLY A WATERED-DOWN FOOTNOTE WHICH REFERENCED THE FACT THAT "MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE HAVE GENERALLY EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT ITS METHOD OF WORK SHOULD NORMALLY ALLOW FOR ATTEMPTS TO REACH A DECISION BY CONSENSUS BEFORE THE VOTING". THE FOOTNOTE REITERATES, HOWEVER, THAT THE CHAIRMAN AT THE REQUEST OF A MEMBER, MAY PUT ANY PROPOSAL TO A VOTE.

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3. AS AUTHORIZED BY RULE 88 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED A FIVE-MEMBER WORKING GROUP TO STUDY COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED UNDER ARTICLE 41 OF THE COVENANT. THE WORKING GROUP, WHICH WILL MEET THREE DAYS BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF THE NEXT COMMITTEE SESSION, MAY ALSO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON RULES OF PROCEDURE NOT YET

ADOPTED. SELECTED ON A REGIONAL BASIS, THE FOLLOWING WILL SERVE ON THE WORKING GROUP. HAISSAM KELANI (SYRIA), FERNANDO MORA ROJA (COSTA RICA), RAJ SOOMER LALLAH (MAURITIUS), BERNHARD BRAEFRATH (GDR), AND TORKEL OPSAHL (NORWAY). THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE WORKING GROUP APPLIES ONLY TO THE MEETING PRIOR TO THE COMMITTEE'S SECOND SESSION.

4. THE COMMITTEE ABANDONED ITS PLANS TO MEET IN JUNE AND WILL, INSTEAD, HOLD ITS SECOND SESSION FROM 11-31 AUGUST 1977 IN GENEVA, WITH THE WORKING GROUP TO BEGIN DELIBERATIONS ON AUGUST 8. THIRD AND FOURTH SESSIONS ARE SCHEDULED FOR 9-27 JANAUARY, 1978 IN GENEVA, AND 10-28 JULY 1978 IN NEW YORK.
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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 02-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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